

Message Text

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TO AMEMBASSY PARIS IMMEDIATE

INFO AMEMBASSY BONN IMMEDIATE

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AMEMBASSY MOSCOW IMMEDIATE

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AMEMBASSY TEL AVIV IMMEDIATE

AMEMBASSY TOKYO IMMEDIATE

AMEMBASSY TUNIS IMMEDIATE

AMEMBASSY VIENNA IMMEDIATE

USMISSION USUN NY IMMEDIATE

C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 122632

NESCO

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: OCON, PFOR, UNESCO, IS, XF

SUBJECT: UNESCO 99TH EXBD: AGENDA ITEM 9.2: ARAB
RESOLUTION ON CULTURAL-EDUCATIONAL RIGHTS IN
OCCUPIED TERRITORIES

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REF; PARIS 14721

1. DEPT. APPRECIATES PERM DEL'S ANALYSIS OF POSITIONS ON SUBJECT AGENDA ITEM WHICH INDICATE PROBABLE OVERWHELMING SUPPORT FOR ARAB/AFRICAN RESOLUTION. WE CONCUR WITH WEO JUDGMENT THAT THIS DRAFT RESOLUTION DOES REFLECT SUCCESS OF MODERATE VOICES IN CAUSE OF AVOIDANCE OF ZIONISM/RACISM ISSUE AND OF DOWNPLAYING ARAB/ISRAELI CONFRONTATION IN UNESCO FORUM. NEVERTHELESS, USDEL SHOULD VOTE AGAINST DRAFT RESOLUTION, WHICH CAUSES US THE SAME PROBLEMS AS PROMPTED US TO VOTE AGAINST RESOLUTION 13.1 DURING 18TH GC, NAMELY:

(A) PREAMBULAR JUDGMENT THAT POPULATIONS OF OCCUPIED TERRITORIES "ARE PREVENTED FROM FREELY ENJOYING INALIENABLE EDUCATIONAL AND CULTURAL RIGHTS...." AS WE NOTED IN CONNECTION WITH 18TH GC RESOLUTION (STATE 249704), IT IS OBVIOUS THAT PEOPLES INVOLVED DO INDEED ENJOY THESE RIGHTS, ALTHOUGH THERE IS ROOM FOR IMPROVEMENT.

(B) PRESENT DRAFT, BY REQUESTING ISRAELI COMPLIANCE WITH RESOLUTION 13.1 AND INVITING DG TO CONTINUE HIS "EFFORTS FOR EFFECTIVE APPLICATION OF THIS RESOLUTION", RECALLS OUR PRINCIPAL OBJECTION TO 13.1, WHICH WAS IDEA OF DG EXERCISING "FULL SUPERVISION" OF EDUCATIONAL AND CULTURAL INSTITUTIONS IN OCCUPIED TERRITORIES. THIS IS A TOTALLY UNREALISTIC POLITICAL PROPOSAL THAT FAR EXCEEDS UNESCO'S MANDATE TO PROVIDE ASSISTANCE TO MEMBER STATES. WHILE WE FULLY SUPPORT RIGHTS TO NATIONAL AND CULTURAL LIFE IN OCCUPIED ARAB TERRITORIES, WE REMAIN CONVINCED THAT BEST WAY TO ACHIEVE THEM IS THROUGH COOPERATION BETWEEN UNESCO, THE OCCUPYING AUTHORITIES AND THE ARAB PEOPLES CONCERNED.

3. FOR ABOVE REASONS, WE ARE PUZZLED BY APPARENT WILLINGNESS OF WEO'S, IN PARTICULAR, TO ABANDON THEIR PREVIOUS POSITIONS OF ABSTENTION (AT 18TH GC) IN FAVOR OF SUPPORT FOR PRESENT RESOLUTION. WE HOPE PERM REP'S REPORT OF MAY 19 MEETING OF INFORMATION GROUP, AT WHICH PERM REP REQUESTED TO EXPLAIN U. S. POSITION, WILL THROW LIGHT ON THIS. PERM REP SHOULD ALSO TAKE OPPORTUNITY OF LUNCH

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WITH BAR YAACOV AND YAPOU TO APPRISE THEM OF U. S. POSITION, AS WELL, AND REPORT REACTIONS.

4. IN CORRIDORS AND, FORMALLY, IN OFFERING EXPLANATION OF U. S. VOTE ON DRAFT RESOLUTION DURING MAY 24 PLENARY SESSION, USDEL SHOULD EMPHASIZE OUR DEEP APPRECIATION OF MEMBERS' ATTEMPTS AT MODERATION (I.E., AFRICAN GOOD OFFICES AND ARAB RESTRAINT) IN DEALING WITH THIS ISSUE. KISSINGER

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